

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4-7, and 9-14 have been canceled to allow prosecution of claims 1, 3, and 8.

New claims 15 and 16 have been added.

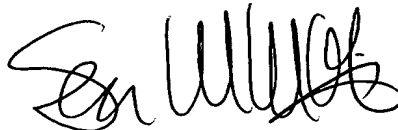
With respect to the prior co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 10/098,308, Applicant hereby incorporates the claim of priority from Japanese Application 2001-78308 filed on March 19, 2001, and claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.

The prior application is assigned of record to NEC Corporation at Reel 012713, and Frame 0496.

Early and favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



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